



WEEKLY REPORT

Farah Province

Milestones Achieved

- On December 18th, 21 people attended the Farah Gender Working Group meeting, including representatives from the DRRD, DoWA, Department of Labor and Social Affairs (DoLSA), influential female community members, and other NGOs with an interest in gender activities.

During the meeting DoLSA agreed to organize vocational training for 15 women who recently completed a drug treatment program at the WADAN clinic. The MRRD Stability Program also agreed to move forward with tailoring training for 11 women, introduced by WADAN clinic in Kanisk village of Bala Baluk District.



Farah Gender Working Group Meeting, December 18th, 2012, Farah DRRD compound.

- Technical surveys were completed for 50 water divider projects in Ganjabad, Gerani, Khoja Khedr, Farah Road and Tapa Sadat villages, listed in Bala Baluk DPP Submission #3. Work was also started on the technical package for the water dividers.
- Five key informant interviews with district entities for a communications related baseline were completed in Bala Baluk and Pusht-e Rod Districts.
- Two Communication Plans were drafted as follow on to the previous weeks' communications capacity building trainings provided to the Bala Baluk District Governor and DSC focal points. The Communication plans, which will be reviewed and finalized by the relevant district entities, lay out activities for the next three months, including printing posters and brochures, organizing Shura and Jirga meetings.
- To date 31 employees (7 female, 24 male) have been hired, and 4 positions are being recruited.

Challenges/Action

- NSTR

Forward Looking

- We expect to conduct training in effective communication for up to 30 farmers in Bala Baluk District on December 23rd. The first meeting will aim to elect up to six focal points, who will receive additional training to enable community members to effectively communicate their needs to GIRoA officials.

- Conduct communications training for Pusht-e Rod Youth Association focal points on December 24th.

Badghis Province

Milestones Achieved

- Coordination for the first Moqur DSC meeting and second Qadis DSC meeting continued with the respective District Governors. Arrangements are being made to hold the Moqur DSC meeting on December 25th, and the Qadis DSC meeting on December 27th.
- The Badghis PST Gender Officer traveled to Herat and received gender-related training, including an Introduction to Gender Awareness and Gender Mainstreaming.
- A meeting was held with the Badghis Provincial Council Deputy Director on December 12th as part of our coordination activities. The Stability Program was introduced, including the objectives of the program in Badghis Province, and the provincial council was asked to support the program. The Provincial Council Deputy Director was invited to participate in the upcoming DSC meetings.
- Data collection and verification for the Badghis Service Providers Catalogue (SPC) was completed and sent to the Communications and Public Outreach Department for editing.
- To date 12 employees (2 female, 10 male) have been hired and 18 positions are being recruited.

Challenges/Action

- NSTR

Forward Looking

- Contact and coordinate with Qadis and Moqur Districts officials for the next DSC meetings.
- Identify DRRD counterparts and conduct capacity building needs assessments.

Herat Province

Milestones Achieved

- On December 11th, the third Shindand DSC meeting was held with the participation of 55 people including 28 DSC members (eight of whom were women), 19 District Entities, and nine observers.

During the meeting an *Ulema* representative discussed the issues affecting peace in the district and emphasized the role of Islam in bringing stability. The representative announced his full support for the MRRD Stability Program. During the meeting a review of the Shindand



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Shindand second DSC meeting, December 11th.

**Stability in Key Areas (SIKA) – West
Weekly Report**



December 13th - December 19th, 2012

District Stabilization Matrix (DSM) and District Project Portfolio (DPP) was also completed.

Two Sources of Instability (SOIs) - injustice and poverty - were identified. Following discussion three mitigating activities were identified, including improving awareness of Government staff regarding the importance of justice, and providing vocational and literacy trainings.

- On December 16th, a coordination meeting was held with the Herat Literacy Department regarding proposed literacy courses in Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi and Pashtun Zarghun Districts.

The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate the literacy courses and sign official implementation letters. Following the meeting, the Literacy Department provided 130 text books for the courses, and also planned to work with the Farah and Badghis Literacy Departments to provide text books for ongoing literacy courses in these two provinces.

- To date 24 employees (5 female, 19 male) have been hired and 10 positions are being recruited.



The Herat Literacy Department provided 130 text books for proposed literacy classes.

Challenges/Action

- The “Main Elements of Communications” training on December 13th, and the second DSC meeting in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District on December 16th were canceled due to the inclement weather.

Forward Looking

- Follow up recruitment of Kushk-e Rabat Sangi DST candidates.
- Conduct the “Main Elements of Communications” training for Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District staff.
- Meet with the Director of the Herat DRRD, Pashtun Zarghun and Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District Governors to discuss the Pashtun Zarghun roll-outs and Kushk-e Rabat Sangi second DSC meeting.

Additional Herat-HQ Support

- An internal Gender Working Group Meeting was held on December 16th, with the participation of eight SIKA-West staff from different departments.

The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate and share gender-related activities in all target districts of the Stability Program. This included the involvement of: Qadis and Moqur Districts’ female DDA members in the DSCs, gender focused



Peace Journalism Facebook Page

December 13th - December 19th, 2012

vocational trainings in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District, and literacy courses in Pusht-e Rod and Bala Baluk Districts.

- In conjunction with the Herat-based journalism training NGO, *Nai*, a “Peace Journalism” Facebook page was created to support and encourage journalists to stay connected and continue to implement “conflict sensitive reporting.” Through the Facebook page, journalists from different media outlets and provinces will be able to share peace related activities, publications and stories.
- On December 17th, a Lessons Learned session was held to review the latest Bala Baluk and Pusht-e-Rod DSC meetings. All departments participated in a discussion on the challenges faced the proposal of solutions prior to the next DSC meetings.
- To date 69 employees (22 female, 47 male) have been hired and 27 positions are being recruited.